

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 /010 W

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O 220020Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7874

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, MX

SUBJ: BILATERAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT AND TOUR OF BOSTON YOUTH
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

REF: MEXICO 781-C; STATE 023172-C

FOR CU/ARA MAX CHAPLIN

1. IN REFTELS POST SUGGESTED THAT VISIT OF BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECEIVE STATE ENDORSEMENT IN ORDER FOR VISIT TO BE OFFICIALLY SPONSORED WITHIN MEXICO BY FOREIGN OFFICE. THIS WAS PROPOSED WITH FULL UNDERSTANDING THAT THROUGH PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS IN BOSTON THE COMMUNITY WOULD COVER INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL COSTS FOR ORCHESTRA. DEPARTMENT AGREED THAT EMBASSY COULD INFORM FOREIGN OFFICE THAT VISIT ENDORSED AS CONSISTENT WITH OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN BILATERAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, MEXICAN FOREIGN OFFICE ACCEPTED FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNAL

COSTS AND ARRANGEMENTS BASED ON THAT UNDERSTANDING.

2. EMBASSY NOW INFORMED BY PHONE FROM ORCHESTRA THAT DUE LACK OF FUNDS VISIT CANCELLED DUE TO AIR FARE INCREASE OF \$90.00 PER TICKET.

3. SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES AND OFF-TIME ACTIVITIES ARE WELL-ADVANCED. INCLUDES PERFORMANCES NATIONAL PALACE FINE ARTS, NATIONAL AUDITORIUM AND NUMEROUS CONTACTS YOUNG MUSICIANS. HAVE BEEN HANDLED AT FOREIGN OFFICE, AMBASSADOR CABREREA MUNOZ LEDO, AND BELLAS ARTES, DIRECTOR SERGIO GALINDO, LEVEL. CANCELLATION AT THIS

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STAGE PUTS EMBASSY IN AWKWARD POSITION WITH BOTH. ALTHOUGH WE ARE FULLY AWARE DEPARTMENT POLICY PERFORMING GROUPS BELOW COLLEGE LEVEL, FACT THAT PROGRAMMING FIRMED UP AND HEAVE GOM INVOLVEMENT MAKES THIS CASE SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL.

4. WE SUGGEST DEPARTMENT MAKE STRONG EFFORTS TO ASSURE THAT VISIT TAKE PLACE AS SCHEDULED. IF DEPARTMENT UNABLE TO ASSIST FINANCIALLY, SUGGEST DIRECT DISCUSSION WITH THURSTON SMITH, ORCHESTRA MANAGER, AND POSSIBLY GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS. WE FEEL ORCHESTRA HAS AN OBLIGATION NOW THAT SO MUCH EFFORT HAS BEEN DEVOTED ON ITS BEHALF. WOULD SUGGEST THAT MASSACHUSETTS MIGHT EVEN CONSIDER ORCHESTRA VISIT A PRIME OPPORTUNITY TO SEND TRADE DELEGATION SIMILAR TO VERY SUCCESSFUL VISITS RECENTLY MADE BY GEORGIA, LOUISIANA, ILLINOIS, KANSAS WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN OPTIMISTIC TRADE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THESE STATES.

5. THEATRE BOOKINGS MUST BE CONFIRMED IMMEDIATELY IF THIS TO BE KEPT ON TRACK: REQUEST RESPONSE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE BEFORE COB FRIDAY RE: DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT PROSPECTS VISIT.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MUSIC, POLICIES, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO04436
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750178-1118
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750527/aaaaaylc.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MEXICO 781-C, 75 STATE 023172-C
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BILATERAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT AND TOUR OF BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
TAGS: SCUL, MX, US, BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006